

SLDS Governing Board

Central Mississippi Planning and Development District
1020 Centre Point Boulevard,
Pearl, MS

MINUTES

March 24, 2022

In Attendance:

Patrick Sullivan, Chair, State Workforce Investment Board
Martin Duclos, NSPARC at Mississippi State University
Zach Sims, NSPARC at Mississippi State University
Steven Grice, NSPARC at Mississippi State University
Michael Taquino, NSPARC at Mississippi State University
Don Edney, MS Department of Health
Audrey McAfee, MS Department of Corrections
John Kraman, Mississippi Department of Education
Bob Anderson, MS Department of Human Services
Mitzi Gendron, Mississippi Institutions of Higher Learning
Kell Smith, MS Community College Board
Bill Ashley, Mississippi Development Authority
Avery Lee, SLDS Board Attorney
Chris Howard, MS Department of Rehabilitation Services
Kevin Bishop, MS Department of Rehabilitation Services
Robin Stewart, MS Department of Employment Security
Thomas Dobbs, MS Department of Health
Andrea Sanders, MS Department of Child Protective Services

Call to Order: Chair Patrick Sullivan called the meeting to order at 10:12 a.m.

Chair Sullivan opened the meeting and opened the floor for introduction of meeting attendees.

Chair Sullivan reminded Board members of the significant improvement made through revisions of the SLDS Governing Board Rules and Regulations. Chair Sullivan explained that the purpose of the revisions was to improve access to the system for the Office of Workforce Development, Accelerate MS, and others with interest in the information.

Chair Sullivan indicated that minutes from the June 17, 2021, meeting and the March 24, 2022, meeting will be presented for approval during the next SLDS Governing Board meeting.

Motion: A motion was made by John Kraman to amend the agenda to receive a high-level overview of the revisions to the SLDS Rules and Regulations. Dr. Bill Ashley seconded the motion. All in favor. Motion carries.

Dr. Courtney Taylor, Accelerate MS, made a presentation to the board on SLDS utilization and access to quality data. Dr. Taylor explained the various types of questions that Accelerate MS has asked NSPARC/SLDS.

Chair Sullivan explained that the goal of Accelerate MS is to determine how best to use the information provided through SLDS to drive public policy solutions, funding programs with positive outcomes.

Dr. Steven Grice introduced Zack Sims of NSPARC to provide a presentation on the *Lifetracks* website review and considerations. Sims explained the review process for updates to the SLDS website, stating that a committee has researched and presented options for the improvement of the SLDS web portal that is currently referred to as *LifeTracks*. The purpose is to modernize, improve navigation, and improve report format. Solutions include a new portal design and with attributes including a responsive web design, search and filter functionality, intuitive report listing, permalinks and share buttons, and a stakeholder report request form. Next steps are to receive approval from the SLDS Governing Board to begin the design and development process to modernize the SLDS web portal.

Motion: A motion was made by Bob Anderson to move forward with the redesign process with the SLDS Governing Board members having input throughout the process. John Kraman seconded the motion. All in favor. Motion carries.

John Kraman opened discussion regarding review and clarity of the governing rules. Andrea Sanders mentioned the need for a standard operating procedure and suggested meeting more often.

Motion: A motion was made by John Kraman to clarify the SLDS Governing Board Rules and Regulations. No Second. Motion dies on the table.

Andrea Sanders made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Chris Howard seconded the motion. All in favor. Motion carries.